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| <b>UTILITY<br/>PATENT APPLICATION<br/>TRANSMITTAL</b><br><br>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) | Attorney Docket No.    | 50598.1                             |
|  | First Inventor         | ROBERT F. MILLER                    |
|  | Title                  | METAL PIPE COUPLING AND<br>ASSEMBLY |
|  | Express Mail Label No. | ER 268355563 US                     |

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| <b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b><br>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents. | <b>ADDRESS TO:</b><br>Mail Stop Patent Application<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria VA 22313-1450 |
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| <div>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)<br/>(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</div> <div>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status.<br/>See 37 CFR 1.27.</div> <div>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 9]<br/>(preferred arrangement set forth below)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Descriptive title of the invention</li><li>- Cross Reference to Related Applications</li><li>- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R &amp; D</li><li>- Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix</li><li>- Background of the Invention</li><li>- Brief Summary of the Invention</li><li>- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)</li><li>- Detailed Description</li><li>- Claim(s)</li><li>- Abstract of the Disclosure</li></ul></div> <div>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 3]</div> <div>5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets ]<div>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy)</div><div>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))<br/>(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)</div><div>i. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</b><br/>Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) name in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</div></div> <div>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76</div> | <div>7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)</div> <div>8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)<div>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF)</div><div>b. Specification Sequence Listing on:<div>i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or</div><div>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper</div></div><div>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies</div></div> |
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**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))

10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) ☐ Power of Attorney

11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)

12. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment

14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)

15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)

16. ☒ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.

17. ☐ Other: .....

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☒ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No. 60/456,847

Prior application information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only; The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

**19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

☐ Customer Number:  OR ☒ Correspondence address below

|                   |                              |                                   |                    |          |              |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------|
| Name              | PHILIP A. DALTON             |                                   |                    |          |              |
| Address           | 236 WEST PORTAL AVE., NO. 15 |                                   |                    |          |              |
| City              | SAN FRANCISCO                | State                             | CA                 | Zip Code | 94127-1423   |
| Country           | US                           | Telephone                         | 415.505.0716       | Fax      | 415.664.1001 |
| Name (Print/Type) | PHILIP A. DALTON             | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 26,859             |          |              |
| Signature         |                              | Date                              | MONDAY, 03/22/2004 |          |              |

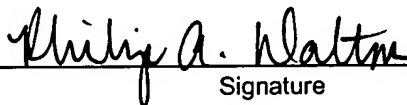
|   |                        |                                  |                  |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>NONPUBLICATION REQUEST<br/>UNDER<br/>35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)</b> | First Named Inventor   |                                  | ROBERT F. MILLER |
|   | Title                  | METAL PIPE COUPLING AND ASSEMBLY |                  |
|   | Attorney Docket Number |                                  | 50598.1          |

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

MONDAY 03/22/2004

Date

  
Signature

415.505.0716

Telephone number

PHILIP A. DALTON

Typed or printed name

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT, REG. NO. 26859

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application **upon filing**.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.